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DE RUEHKB #1539/01 2940828
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O 210828Z OCT 06
FM AMEMBASSY BAKU
TO RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0328
INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1526

UNCLAS BAKU 001539

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [OTRA](#) [AJ](#)
SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR MARK SULLIVAN, EBRD

REF: LONDON 7482

11. EMBASSY BAKU GRANTS COUNTRY CLEARANCE TO MARK SULLIVAN, U.S. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EBRD, FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 23-27, 12006. PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO REVIEW EBRD PROJECTS IN AZERBAIJAN, MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND EBRD STAFF. CONTROL OFFICER FOR THE VISIT IS ECON OFFICER DAVID MCCORMICK; HE CAN BE REACHED AT THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

INTERNATIONAL LINE: 994-12-4980335 X 4240
CELL PHONE: 994-50-206-9603
INTERNATIONAL FAX: 994-12-4656671
IVG FAX: 841-4289.
MCCORMICKDL(AT)STATE.GOV

12. ACCOMMODATIONS: PER REFTTEL, WE UNDERSTAND THAT SULLIVAN ALREADY HAS RESERVATIONS AT THE SHEKI SARAY HOTEL FOR THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 23 AND AT THE PARK HYATT HOTEL FOR THE NIGHTS OF OCTOBER 24-27.

13. VISAS: ALL TRAVELERS ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN VISAS FOR ALL/ALL STOPS ON THEIR ITINERARY PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE. WE RECOMMEND THAT TRAVELERS OBTAIN AZERI VISAS FROM THE EMBASSY OF AZERBAIJAN AT THE POINT OF ORIGIN, AND THAT THEY ALLOW 10 DAYS FOR PROCESSING OF THE VISA REQUEST. IF VISAS CANNOT BE OBTAINED AT THE TRAVELER'S POINT OF ORIGIN, AN AIRPORT VISA CAN BE ISSUED UPON ARRIVAL. PLEASE PROOF READ YOUR VISA CAREFULLY. AN OCCASIONAL EMBASSY GUEST HAS RECEIVED A VISA WITH AN ERROR IN IT. IF TRAVELING ON A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT THERE IS NO FEE. IF TRAVELING ON TOURIST OR OFFICIAL PASSPORTS, THERE IS A 40 USD FEE FOR A ONE ENTRY, ONE MONTH VISA. PASSPORT ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE AT THE PASSPORT COUNTER IN ROOM 1258 OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THE EMBASSY OF AZERBAIJAN REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF TWO WORKING DAYS TO PROCESS VISA REQUESTS. SHOULD THE PROJECTED ITINERARY INCLUDE TRANSIT THROUGH TURKEY, VISITORS MUST OBTAIN TURKISH VISAS IN ADVANCE. BEARERS OF DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL PASSPORTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PURCHASE AIRPORT VISAS IN TURKEY AND WILL BE DENIED EXIT FROM THE ISTANBUL AIRPORT. IF TRANSIT THROUGH RUSSIA IS NECESSARY, TRAVELERS MUST OBTAIN TRANSIT VISAS IN ADVANCE.

14. CELL PHONES AND COMPUTER ACCESS:

--IF VISITORS REQUIRE ACCESS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S OPENNET OR CLASSNET SYSTEMS, THEY SHOULD ADVISE THEIR CONTROL OFFICER (VIA E-MAIL OR CABLE) OF THIS REQUIREMENT AT LEAST FIVE WORKDAYS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. THE CONTROL OFFICER SHOULD IMMEDIATELY COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE SYSTEMS REQUEST FORM (S) AND PASS TO THE RSO. THE RSO WILL VERIFY THE SECURITY CLEARANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL (S) AND THEN PASS THE REQUEST TO ISC.

--IF VISITORS REQUIRE CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE WHILE IN BAKU, THEY MUST ADVISE THEIR CONTROL OFFICER (VIA E-MAIL OR CABLE) OF THIS REQUEST AT LEAST FIVE WORKDAYS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. THIS REQUEST MUST/MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY FISCAL DATA TO PAY FOR THE REQUESTED SERVICE (USD 100). THE CONTROL OFFICER SHOULD IMMEDIATELY COMPLETE A WORK ORDER AND PASS IT TO THE GSO.

15. TRAVEL ADVISORY: TRAVELERS ARE ADVISED ALSO THAT THE ALTERNATE LANDING SITE FOR BA FLIGHT LONDON-BAKU IS TBILISI, GEORGIA. THE ALTERNATE LANDING SITE WOULD BE USED ONLY IN SITUATIONS WHICH PROHIBIT LANDING AT BAKU HEYDAR ALIYEV INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

16. VISIT SCHEDULE: TBD.

17. WEB SITE: USEFUL INFORMATION FOR ALL TRAVELERS IS AVAILABLE ON

THE INTERNET AT [HTTP://BAKU.USEMBASSY.GOV](http://BAKU.USEMBASSY.GOV). FOLLOW LINKS FOR CONSULAR SERVICES: TRAVELING TO AZERBAIJAN.

18. GENERAL REMINDERS:

-- BRING SUFFICIENT CASH TO PAY FOR ALL EXPENSES EXCEPT LODGING. CREDIT CARDS ARE STILL ACCEPTED ONLY BY BUSINESSES THAT CATER TO FOREIGNERS, SUCH AS HOTELS, TRAVEL AGENCIES, INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES AND A FEW RESTAURANTS.

-- THE EMBASSY HAS A CIRRUS/PLUS NETWORK ATM MACHINE, WHICH ACCEPTS MOST U.S. BANK CARDS. IT DISPENSES BOTH THE LOCAL CURRENCY (AZERBAIJANI MANAT) AND U.S. DOLLARS.

-- BRING SUPPLIES OF ALL HARD-TO-FIND FOODS, TOILETRIES AND MEDICINES. WESTERN COMMODITIES ARE SOLD IN BAKU BUT ARE EXPENSIVE AND NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

-- DRINK ONLY BOTTLED WATER; TAP WATER IS NOT POTABLE.

19. SECURITY: CRIME IN BAKU IS COMPARABLE WITH THAT OF MAJOR U.S. CITIES. VISITORS SHOULD EXERCISE CAUTION, AVOID WALKING ALONE AFTER DARK, AND BE AWARE OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS AT ALL TIMES. STREET CRIME INCLUDES PICKPOCKETS, JEWELRY SNATCHING AND ARMED ROBBERY. IF CONFRONTED, NO RESISTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN AND VALUABLES SHOULD BE SURRENDERED. MEDICAL FACILITIES ARE LIMITED IN DEALING WITH MAJOR TRAUMA CARE. VISITORS SHOULD KEEP THEIR PASSPORTS OR A COPY WITH THEM AT ALL TIMES. COUNTERFEIT U.S. DOLLARS ARE OFTEN PASSED IN

BAKU. VISITORS SHOULD EXCHANGE MONEY ONLY AT THE MAJOR BANKS
AND
HOTELS, OR AT THE EMBASSY CASHIER.

¶10. SECURITY CLEARANCE LEVEL: ALL VISITORS WHO REQUIRE ACCESS
TO
CLEARED AREAS AND "NO ESCORT" ID BADGES MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF
THEIR
SECURITY CLEARANCE BY FRONT CHANNEL CABLE.

¶11. PER REFTTEL, WE UNDERSTAND THAT NO EMBASSY TRANSPORTATION
ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED.
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